

ON SCREEN

PHILA INQUIRER FRIDAY FEB 2 1996

Art Films

Stone's vision and version of the truth in 'JFK'

By Desmond Ryan
INQUIRER MOVIE CRITIC

The grenades being tossed in Oliver Stone's direction for *Nixon* are mere marshmallows when measured against the tumultuous reception for his masterpiece *JFK* four years ago.

Stone was vilified for lionizing New Orleans district attorney and one-man crusader Jim Garrison (Kevin Costner) and presenting a view of the assassination of John F. Kennedy that the gullible would treat as historical fact. The truth is — and Stone's film vehemently argues that truth is the first casualty of any assassination — that *JFK* is a vision infused with molten rage.

In the course of more than

three hypnotic and superbly acted hours, Stone takes you through his version. Whether you reject his conclusions as terminally paranoid is, in the end, immaterial. You certainly will find it hard to argue with his devastating interpretation of the long-range consequences for this country.

Showing in the Cultural Film Series at Villanova University.

Art films

■ Indicates Black History Month event.

American Swedish Historical Museum
1900 Pattison Ave; 215-389-1776. \$6; \$5 children 12-18, under age 12 free. Series: "Swedish Immigration in Film." *The Emigrants*, rambling tale of a peasant farmer (Max von Sydow) and his wife (Liv Ullman) and fellow Swedes who emigrate to America in the 19th century. 1 p.m. Sun.

County Theater 20 E State St,

Doylestown; 215-348-3456. \$4 (adult or child). *The Little Princess* (1939), stars Shirley Temple as a girl who goes from princess to pauper after the loss of her father and his fortune. 1 p.m. Sat.

Cultural Film Series Villanova University, Connelly Center, Ithan Ave & Rte 30, Villanova; 610-519-4750. & \$4; \$3 students. *JFK*, Oliver Stone's story of the alleged conspiracy behind the Kennedy assassination; stars Kevin Costner, Kevin Bacon, Tommy Lee Jones. 7 p.m. Sat; 3:30 & 7 p.m. Sun; 7 p.m. Mon.

Film Forum Philadelphia Senior Center, 509 S Broad St; 215-732-7704. & \$4.50; \$3.50 students. Double feature: *Harvest*, Marcel Pagnol's story about two peasants struggling to till the land and give life to the earth (French, with subtitles; 7 p.m. Sat). *The Man Who Could Work Miracles*, H G Wells' fantasy about a timid British department store clerk endowed with power to do anything he wants; with Roland Young, Ralph Richardson (9:20 p.m. Sat).

Jewish Film Festival Gershan YM & YWHA, Broad & Pine Sts; 215-545-4400, ext 243. & Double feature: *Chicks in White Satin*, two young women meet, fall in love, decide to spend their lives together

and plan a wedding in this 1994 Academy Award nominee for Best Short Documentary. *When Shirley Met Florence*, story of the lifelong attachment of two women in their 60s, one straight, one gay. 8 p.m. Sat (\$8.50); 2 p.m. Sun and 7 p.m. Mon (\$6.50). Films are followed on Saturday and Sunday with talk by Carol Salline, coauthor of *Sisters*. • *Brazil*, Terry Gilliam's look at a mechanistic future society; stars Jonathan Pryce, Robert DeNiro, Bob Hoskins. \$5; \$4 seniors & students. 7 p.m. Tue. • *The Hunger*, vampire drama stars Catherine Deneuve, David Bowie, Susan Sarandon. \$5; \$4 seniors & students. 7 p.m. Thu.

Neighborhood Film/Video Project International House, 3701 Chestnut St; 215-895-6542. & Unless noted: \$6; \$5 seniors & students. Series: "From Caesar to Superfly." *Black Caesar*, drama about a Harlem gangster, stars Fred Williamson. 6 tonight. *Cleopatra Jones*, stars Tamara Dobson. 8 tonight, 7 p.m. Tue. *Superfly*, Gordon Parks Jr's landmark blaxploitation film about a Harlem drug dealer, stars Ron O'Neal. 10 tonight; 8 p.m. Sun. *Sheba Baby*, Pam Grier stars as a liberated Chicago private eye. 7 p.m. Mon. *Black Mama, White Mama*, prison movie stars Pam Grier, Margaret Markov. 9 p.m. Mon. *Sweet Sweetback's Baadasssss Song*, reverse-racist drama, directed by Melvin Van Peebles. 9 p.m.



Kevin Costner as Jim Garrison in 'JFK' at Connelly Center.